

# Friends of the Library Newsletter

Keene Memorial Library

Fall 2005  
Volume 9, Issue 2

## Dessert in the Hay Stacks



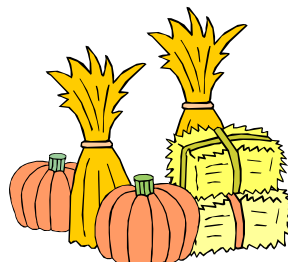
This year's "Dessert in the Stacks" takes on a western theme. All Friends of the Library members are invited to attend this exclusive event Friday, November 18th at 7:30 p.m.

Cowboy Rhythm will entertain us with cowboy and western songs, poetry, yodeling, and tidbits of history. Comprised of Ron and Leigh Anne Frame of Ceresco and Sarah Kovar of Elkhorn, this trio will bring traditional western music to Keene.

With guitar and banjo, they will perform the music of Gene Autry, Sons of the Pioneers, Roy Rogers, Rex Allen, Girls of the Golden West, Patsy Montana, and others. Cowboy Rhythm has performed at events across the country and has released several recordings which will be available for purchase at the concert.

Dessert in the Hay Stacks will also include the presentation of the Faith Perry Service Award and homemade desserts. While not required, you are welcome to don western apparel.

Invite friends and family to become new Friends members so they can accompany you to this foot-stomping, hand-clapping event. "Happy Trails."



## Annual Meeting a Success

The annual meeting of the *Friends of the Library* was held on Sunday, March 13th at Keene Memorial Library. President Dick Felt welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Jan Therien and Clarice Magnuson were installed as new board members. Outgo-

ing board members, Ivy Berg and Bobbie Hughes were thanked for their years of service to the Friends Board. An update was given on the upcoming book sale.

A program was then presented by local children's author Nancy Wegner, aka N.L. Sharp. She spoke about the process that followed in publishing her children's books. She shared some of the basic premises shared by all children's books and described the very unique story of each book that she has written. She then treated those in attendance to a reading of her newest book, Effie's Image. The tale is a beautiful story of an older woman who finds her beauty and feeling



*Author N.L. Sharp shares the process she went through in*

of self-worth back by engaging herself in the lives of children at a neighborhood school. Refreshments and social time were enjoyed following the talk.

This was once again a wonderful opportunity to network and socialize with others who have a great deal of interest and concern for the library.



*Dick Felt thanks Ivy Berg for her years of service on the Friends board.*

## 2005 Friends Board of Directors

Richard Felt, President  
Lana Larsen, Vice President  
Dave Theophilus, Treasurer  
Laura Wray, Secretary  
Faith Perry, Booksale  
Larry Jirsak, Liaison to the Library Board  
Ann Stephens, Library Director  
Ann Colvin  
Laura Cooper  
Cindy Hasemann  
Jim Holtam  
Jan Therien



## Library Board

Tim Schulz, President  
Patty Dillon  
Jenna Parkening  
Charles Gordon  
Larry Jirsak



*The Friends Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Friends of Keene Memorial Library. It is distributed to the Friends membership. This issue was designed by Cindy Hasemann and edited by Janet Kletke.*

## Message from the President

Greetings Friends of the Library,

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is fast approaching. We've done so much this past year, and I'm pleased to share some of those successes with you.

The annual book sale was a tremendous success. I can not say too much in praise of all those who worked so hard preparing for the sale by sorting, moving, stacking, and then those who helped with the sale event itself. Thank you all so much. Be sure to read Faith Perry's comments regarding this successful event.

A Chamber Coffee was hosted on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the library and was well attended by Chamber members and Friends. Refreshments were served, and all who attended were pleased with the muffins and cookies from CARE BEARS, run by Ms. Carrie Beecham of Fremont.

We hosted a successful Lemonade on the Lawn during John C. Fremont Days.

I was recently asked why I joined the Friends of the Library. For such a straightforward question it required some thought. I first joined Friends because I enjoyed the events and programs they put on through the

library. As time went by, I met more people who worked through the Friends organization to help with projects for the betterment of the library,

therefore improving and enriching the patrons' experience there. I realized that through the Friends helping the library, I would be helping the community also. There comes a time when a person realizes that it is time to give back some of the richness and rewards that you have experienced from your community. I believe that time has come for me. When asked to serve on the Friends' Board I was pleased to say yes. It has been my privilege to serve on the Board and help make a difference. No organization can continue to grow and fulfill its promise without new members and new ideas. I would challenge each and every one of you to find a friend to become a Friend.

Until next time, remember we always appreciate your dedication and support for your organization.

*Richard Felt, President*



## Chamber Coffee a Success

The Friends of the Library sponsored a Chamber coffee on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Library. There was an impressive turnout from the business community. Special thanks to Laura Wray and Jan Therien for their efforts in planning the event.



## Books for Babies



There is so much available to us about the importance of reading to our children. In this newsletter I am going to share the message of a national program attempting to do simply that:

The mission of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy is to establish reading as a value in every family in America. The home is the child's first school, the parent is the child's first teacher and reading is the child's first subject. The Foundation states it best: One of the most important things parents can do to help their

children succeed in school is to read to them early and often.

Children who are read to learn to read more easily than those who are not.

Reading to children is good for their curiosity, their imagination, and their vocabulary. It helps them pay attention longer, think better, and communicate more successfully.

Children's ability to understand what they read depends a lot on background knowledge ~ what they already know. The more children are read to now, the more they will learn for use in reading later.

Reading to your child leads to great conversations that give you a chance to share thoughts and feelings. It helps

your child grow emotionally, and it brings you closer together.



When you read to your children you let them know that reading is a valued activity in your home.

Reading helps us grow, head and heart. It gets children ready for school and helps them once they get there. It is a special time for children to be close to grown-ups who care for them ~ a wonderful way to feel loved.

For more information about The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy contact the following: [www.barbarabushfoundation.com](http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com)

*Sheryl Thomsen, Coordinator*



**Our connection may not be faster than a speeding bullet, but it's close!**

**Keene Memorial Library – now a Wi-Fi Hot Spot for your wireless computer.**

## Wireless Hot-Spot at the Library

Keene Memorial Library has gone wireless! The library has run out of ways to add more cabling to the library, so we made a decision to install a wireless connection.

Library users may bring their laptops into the library building or the east building and use the wireless hot-spot to access the Internet.

In addition, the library has implemented a wireless classroom with five laptops, an instructor's laptop and a projector. The classroom is completely portable and can be set up anywhere in the library, from the Board Room to the east building.

The hot-spot, hardware and software were purchased for about \$11,000 with funding from Friends of the Library and a Trust.

The library staff has already used the classroom for new training classes. In the future, staff is planning to teach the public how to use special features in the online catalog and subscription databases.



*A patron utilizes the new wireless hot-spot.*

## Letter from the Library Director

Dear Friends of Keene Memorial Library,

More than a year has passed since I wrote to thank you for all your support of the library. Once again, throughout the 2004-2005 year, the Friends have made a great difference in the services and the marketing of our library.

The big ticket items this past year were the annual \$5,000 contribution for the Enrichment Collection and the \$2,190 toward the new landscaping of the library grounds. These projects are key to the support of the library and provided much needed additional funding not included in the library's budget.

We love the long list of "provisions" from our Friends: pizza for the Golden Sower Party and the Junior Friends, assistance to mail 150 copies of the annual report, lunches for staff and board training sessions, our new flag presented each year, pencils, help with the staff float, programs such as "Willa Cather" by Betty Jean Steinshouer, summer reading prizes and refreshments, refreshments, refreshments for many events.

Thanks to the Board for its work and dedication, and special thanks to the officers, Richard Felt, Lana Larsen, Laura Wray and Dave Theophilus. Cindy Hasemann at First State Bank does a beautiful job of publicizing the Friends and events at the library through the quarterly newsletter. Thanks to Duane Humphrey for compiling membership lists and printing labels. Special thanks to Cindy for ensuring Keene's presence at and support for the Scribner Tannenbaum Festival.

Yearly events sponsored by the

Friends went especially well this year: Lemonade on the Library Lawn with Yesterday's Lady fashion show and Sam Heinemann, bagpiper; Desert in the



Stacks with Dean Jacobs and the high school orchestra; and the annual meeting with Nancy Wagner. Thanks to all the Friends who stepped forward to coordinate, serve refreshments, arrange rooms, decorate tables, purchase coffee and buy door prizes.

Especially noteworthy, of course, are the Herculean efforts of the book sale coordinator Faith Perry and the more than 100 volunteers who make the sale so successful. What an amazing fundraiser! Each year is better than the previous year. Unbelievable!

Finally, thanks for putting on the Chamber Coffee on May 6. Laura Wray and Jan Therien deserve kudos for the beautiful flowers, refreshments, coordination and serving. This coffee is an important event at the library, and it went exceptionally well.

The library staff, library board and I greatly appreciate the Friends of the Library. The dedication, energy and enthusiasm of its members extend and promote the work and good will of the library throughout the community. Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

*Ann E. Stephens*  
Library Director

## Keene Memorial Library Hours of Operation

Sunday ..... 2 p.m.—5 p.m.  
Monday ..... 10 a.m.—9 p.m.  
Tuesday ..... 10 a.m.—9 p.m.  
Wednesday ..... 9 a.m.—9 p.m.

Thursday ..... 10 a.m.—9 p.m.  
Friday ..... 10 a.m.—6 p.m.  
Saturday ..... 10 a.m.—6 p.m.





# Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds

## Keene Memorial Library Summer Reading Program



*Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds.* That was the agenda from May to August at Keene. Looking at our calendar can be compared to looking at a buffet with daring deeds taking

place almost every day of the month during the summer. Our summer goal was 1,300 readers which is about 75 more readers than the 2004 summer program.

Summer Reading Programs at Keene are enriched by professional performances including Jeff Quinn the magician, Stinky Feet (aka Jim Cosgrove), Raptor Rescue, Svoboda Astronomy, Vern Wirka the puppeteer, Dan Sullivan of Capow Science, the Omaha Royals, Brian Henning and his marionettes, Rope Tricks by Brother Mel, Cheri Clark and her Nebraska nature program, plus special appearances by three authors, James Solheim, Nancy Sharp Wagner and Dean Jacobs.

Some exciting new programs were offered this summer such as Art with Mary as a collaborative effort with the Art Association. This group met at the li-

brary on Mondays and at the Art Association on Thursdays with staff member and artist, Mary Ringenberg. The course of study for this group is the work of major artists.

Knitting for Kids met weekly with hopeful knitters and volunteer teachers Cynthia Hansen, Robyn Schulz, Marta Calhoun, Jennifer Bartling, Ginny Wojtkiewicz and Pat Dobrusky. When you see teens coming into the library to practice their knitting during the day, you know you've hit on a success! A creative writing group made up of kids grade 5 and up met with each of the authors this summer, and did some creative writing on their own. Duct Tape Magic and Wizard Wardrobe were July and August ventures into new areas, along with celebrating the new Harry Potter release with a Harry Potter Special afternoon. Readers also had an opportunity to "Tour the Castle" by reading books through the summer.

Old favorites returned this past summer, such as Movin' with Susan with Susan Allen offering a dance and exercise workout for over 40 kids every week, Journaling with Katie with Katie



Roberts offering a wonderful experience both entertaining and creative for third grade and up kids, book discussion groups such as Book Bugs for grades 2 to 5 and Battle with Books for grades 6 to 12, What's Cookin' at the Library with Valerie Enholm demonstrating to a room full of hopeful cooks how to make very eatable goodies, puppet shows presented four days a week by the Junior Friends, Tuesday crafts, Baby Play and Toddler Play, the incentive reading for prizes and the Mystery Boxes to keep everyone guessing.

Put all this together and it was indeed a summer of dragons, dreams and daring deeds. (The dragons were in the puppet shows.)

*Joan Chesley, Children's Librarian*

## Book Sale nets tremendous success



In a recent conversation, I mentioned our volunteers for the book sale. I was amazed at the attitudes of the others in the group. They agreed with one who said, "If I'm going to work, I am going to be paid for it." They belittled volunteering.

The Friends of the Library are extremely fortunate that our volunteers do not feel the same way. We have the example of our board members who attend meetings once a month and plan library events. We enjoy the use of the storage facility at the Masonic Home, thanks to Ben Harvey. The Home provides student involvement, both boys and girls, during our sale. We have high school teachers at Fremont High

and at Bergan who promote community service with their classes-100 students who move boxes for us on set-up day. We have Velma Shipley, who gives us most of a 10 day period of time calling members and non-members to staff our five day sale weekend. We have a group of twelve women who sort year-round for us. The Golden K men have unpacked boxes for us for seven years, as a community project. Our book expert, Vince O'Connor, helps price several times a year. Our library staff promotes our fund-raiser, accepts donations, and moves books. We have an additional 100 workers who move boxes, unpack, set up, work as cashiers, and help customers during the five days in April.

We did have our most successful sale. Our grand total was \$14,315.18. After expenses and Nebraska sales tax,



**Save the Date!**

**The 2006 Book Sale is  
scheduled for April 6-9.**



we should net around \$13,000.

The reward for each person who is involved is in seeing those results and that the Friends can continue to support Keene Memorial Library needs and programs.

Thank you for all that you do to make the Friends' Book Sale a success. Thank you for choosing to volunteer.

*Faith Perry, Booksale Chairperson*

P.S. Donations are currently being accepted for the 2006 book sale. With your help, we can continue to make each book sale more successful than the last.

# Join the Friends of Keene Memorial Library

**Yes, I would like to join for 2006!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Friend ~ (\$5.00 per person per calendar year) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Patron ~ (\$10.00 per person per calendar year) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation to the Friends \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form with your dues to:**

**Friends of Keene Memorial Library**

**1030 N. Broad St.**

**Fremont, NE 68025**

Advantages of membership:

- Members-only night for the annual book sale
- Three - Four newsletters a year
- November event ~ entertainment and dessert
- Short annual meeting (wintertime) with entertainment and dessert
- "Lemonade on the Library Lawn" with Mrs. John C. Fremont

Suggestions for programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Projects I am willing to help with and/or my special talents: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please call me. I would like to help with Friends' projects.

## It's SuperSearch!



And there is nothing mild-mannered about it.

Search any or all of the following from one screen:

Keene Memorial Library Online Catalog  
Contemporary Authors  
CQ Weekly  
Ebsco Magazine Index  
Encyclopaedia Britannica Online  
Health and Wellness Resource Center  
and Alternative Health Module  
NetLibrary  
Readers Guide Retrospective  
Wilson Biographies Plus Illustrated  
Wilson Omnifile Full Text

Save time and effort finding just the information you need—when you need it—on the web at [www.keene.lib.ne.us](http://www.keene.lib.ne.us).

## 10th Annual Lemonade on the Lawn draws large crowd

A very successful, 10th Annual Lemonade on the Library Lawn was held during John C. Fremont Days this past July 9th.

The event kicked off with a flag raising presentation. Immediately following the program, Sue McClain of "Yesterday's Lady" presented a mother and daughter style show featuring vintage clothing. Jessie Benton Fremont, portrayed by Susan Allen, read stories to children.

This patriotic afternoon at the library was once again a marvelous time.



## Welcome to the board!



The Friends Board would like to welcome our newest member, Laura Cooper. Laura joined the board this summer due to a vacancy. She is a familiar face at the library and will be a great asset to our board. Welcome, Laura!



**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** 

**Keene Memorial Library**  
1030 North Broad St.  
Fremont, NE 68025

